E. E. Roberts, Richton, Miss.
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MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Second Annual Session

OF THE

Leaf River Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Sweetwater Baptist Church

October 19, 20 and 21, 1912.

OFFICERS

N. R. KEETON, Moderator ..... Leakesville, Miss.
E. E. ROBERTS, Clerk ..... Richton, R. F. D. 1, Miss.
J. C. ROBERTS, Treasurer ..... Richton, R. F. D. 1, Miss.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

ELDER J. J. WALKER ..... Leakesville, Miss.
ELDER A. G. MORGAN ..... Higgsville, Miss.
ELDER P. G. HILLMAN ..... Neely, Miss.
ELDER ALEX. BRELAND ..... Neely, Miss.

LICENSED

LUTHER TURNER ..... Janes, Miss.
CURTIS MALLET ..... Mullet, Miss.
E. E. ROBERTS ..... Richton, R. F. D. 1, Miss.

ERRATTA

Please note the following corrections:

Page 8—This is a day of action. Men of God, act!

Page 9—We recommend the Bible as a standard by which to judge all other literature.

Page 10—Let us teach or have our boys and girls taught, etc.

South Mississippi College, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Page 11—This is a business view of the situation.

If we have sown unto you spiritual things, etc.

Page 16, Art. 8—This board shall meet while the Association is in session and elect its own chairman and secretary, etc.

Page 17, Art. 14.—Open and close with prayer.

Page 17, Art. 1—Is a perfect rule, etc.

Page 19, Rule 4—If present at the succeeding meeting of the Association, etc.

Page 20, Art. 21—The minutes shall be read, carefully corrected, etc.

The word "Babtist" on the title page should be "Baptist."

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ELDER ALEX. BRELAND ..... Neely, Miss.

LICENSED

LUTHER TURNER ..... Janet, Miss.
CURTIS MALLET ..... Mullet, Miss.
E. E. ROBERTS ..... Richton, R. F. D. 1. Miss.

PROCEEDINGS.

LEAKESVILLE, MISS., OCT. 1912.

The Leaf River Baptist Association met this day with Sweetwater Baptist Church.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, N. R. Keeton.

The appointee, Rev. E. W. McLendon, not being present the Moderator appointed Rev. J. J. Walker to preach the introductory sermon, which he did, using for a text the latter clause of the 28th verse of the 20th chapter of John: "My Lord and my God." Brother Walker seemed to be at his best, and to say the least of it the subject was well rendered.

The clerk, Rev. W. J. Peters not being present, E. E. Roberts was appointed clerk pro tem.

Brethren T. L. Lewis and M. C. Ferguson were appointed reading clerks.

Brethren Josiah Byrd and Jno. D. Turner were appointed as a Finance committee.

Brethren J. E. Miller, M. C. Ferguson, Jno. D. Turner and W. P. Williams were appointed a committee on Credentials.

Letters were read and delegates enrolled from the following churches:

Names of Churches and Delegates.

BEAUMONT—Represented by letter.
BUFKIN CHAPEL—T. P. Finch.
CEDAR GROVE—S. R. Breland and L. Turner.
FELLOWSHIP—C. P. Smith, W. J. Coaker and W. J. Neil.
FRIENDSHIP—A. C. Jordan.
KITTRELL—Geo. Douglass.
LEAKESVILLE—J. E. Miller, W. W. Evans, T. J. Roberts.
MCLAIN—E. E. Todd, C. O. Backstrom.
NEW HOPE—J. T. Vise, A. S. Mellichamp.
PLEASANT HILL—Josiah Byrd, J. F. Brewer, L. R. Cochran.
ROCKY CREEK—J. A. Cannon, Geo. Welford.
SAND HILL—J. C. Roberts, E. E. Roberts.
SEMINARY—Represented by letter.
SWEETWATER—J. H. Turner, W. P. Williams, Jno. D. Turner.
WASHINGTON—Alex Ball, Calvin Byrd, A. H. Harvison.

Election of Officers.

On motion the Association went into an election of officers for the new year which resulted as follows:

N. R. Keeton, Moderator.
E. E. Roberts, Clerk.
J. C. Roberts, Treasurer.

Correspondence.

On motion the following named brethren were elected to go as messengers to sister associations, to-wit:

Perry County Association, Josiah Byrd, E. E. Roberts.
Red Creeek Association, E. E. Todd.
Southeastern Association, J. A. Cannon.
General Association, Rev. J. J. Walker, J. D. Turner, J. E. Miller.
State Convention, Rev. J. J. Walker, J. E. Miller, J. D. Turner.

Chairman of Committees.

Chairman of committees were appointed to report as follows:

Sunday School—N. R. Keeton.
Missions—Rev. J. J. Walker.
Sustentation—Alex Ball.
Baptist Orphanage—Prof. M. C. Ferguson.
Periodicals and Publications—E. E. Todd.
Temperance—Jno. D. Turner.
State of Religion—J. H. Turner.
Christian Education—Prof. T. L. Lewis.
Pastoral Support—A. H. Harvison.
Womans Work—J. E. Miller.
Music—E. E. Roberts.

By motion the Association adjourned to meet Sunday at 10 o'clock a. m.

Rev. J. E. Curry preached at the church Saturday night.

Sunday Morning Session.

Pursuant to adjournment the body met and was called to order by the Moderator, after which Revs. J. J. Walker and J. E. Curry each made an interesting talk on the subject of the Sunday School lesson for today.

The report on Missions was read and after being ably discussed by Revs. J. J. Walker and J. E. Curry, it was adopted as follows:

Report on Missions.

What is our authority for missions? On the way to the Mount of Ascension the disciples said, "Lord, wilt Thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said, "It is not for you to know the time etc, but you shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:6, 8. And then the disciples went away into Gallilee, unto a mountain where Jesus had appointed them, and when they saw Him they worshipped Him; but some doubted, Jesus said unto them, all power is given unto Me in heaven and earth; go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Mat. 28:16, 20. As my Father hath sent you, even so send I you. John 29:21. These are the words of our risen Lord, and we recognize His authority, and have put our hands to the task, and count ourselves happy that He has chosen us to be coworkers with him in the blessed work of giving the gospel of salvation to a lost world.

The method adopted to accomplish our Lord's orders is what we call our "Organized Work." It consists of three boards; all under the direction of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Foreign Mission Board located at Richmond, Va., consists of thirty-eight members who are appointed by the Southern Baptist Convention. This board has charge of the foreign mission work exclusively. There was expended more than $400,000 on this work last year, and the Lord gave us a rich harvest of over four thousand lost souls, besides other important work too numerous to mention in a report like this.

The Home Mission Board, located at Atlanta, Ga., consists of thirty seven members. This board has charge of the work among the foreigners in our cities, in Cuba, the Isles of Pines and Panama, besides along our Western borders. This board does cooperative work with all the state boards in helping to preach the gospel in their destitute territory. There was expended in this work $360,000 and the Master gave us through this agency over forty thousand souls. Glorious!

Our State Mission Board located at Jackson, Miss., has charge of the preaching of the gospel in our own beloved state, and in helping weak churches build houses of worship, and in the support of their pastors. There have been over four hundred churches helped in this way by our State Mission Board that are giving back large sums to help others. The needs and the de-

mands are greater upon our board today than ever at any time in her history. The Mission Board of the General Association, has been, and is making effort to supply the destitution in this immediate territory. Through the co-operative efforts of the State Mission Boards and the Home Mission Board, some progress has been and is being made among us, but far too little is being done in carrying out the command of the Master, which is due largely because we have failed to teach the baptized to observe the all things commanded by our risen Lord.

What of the future and what is expected of the Lord's redeemed ones? The work is stupendous. Our Lord said, "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Eight hundred million souls in this world who do not know our Lord: the only name in heaven or among men whereby we may be saved. Sixty two million in these United States that are lost. These things stagger us as we view them, and yet many, many of the redeemed fail—some because they do not know, others because they do not agree to the methods, and still others from down-right indifference.

Southern Baptists are asked to give $2,500,000 for the work of extending the Kingdom to earth's lost millions. What a sum—the thought of it staggers us—but this divided among the two million Baptists of the South would be exceedingly easy; and more too, when we remember that the Master says, "Lo, I am with you."

Respectfully submitted,
J. J. WALKER, Chairman.

The body was dismissed until 2:30 p. m. and a bountiful dinner was spread.

At the appointed hour the body was called to order again, and the report on Sunday Schools was read and adopted as follows:

Report on Sunday School.

We your committee on Sunday School, beg leave to report as follows:

We note with pride the growing interest in the Sunday School work. Our teachers are preparing themselves for greater usefulness and more efficient work in teaching the word of God. The Bible is the inspired word of God, and we should seek the guidance of His Holy Spirit in teaching His word. The Sunday School should be under the direct control of the church, and its aim should be to reach every unsaved person in the community and bring them to Christ; and upbuild Christians in righteousness by increasing their knowledge of God, as He is revealed in His

word. This high aim deserves our best efforts. Less than this is sin, more than this is impossible. No one should be satisfied to do less than his best in this great work, whether he be officer, teacher or pupil.

Respectfully submitted,

N. R. KEETON, Chairman.

Brethren O. S. Turner, S. R. Breland and L. Turner were appointed a committee on queries and requests.

On motion the Association adjourned until Monday morning at 9 a. m.

Monday Morning Session.

Bursuant to adjournment the body was called to order and the following business transacted:

First, chairman of committees were appointed to report at the next meeting of the Association, Oct. A. D. 1913, and subjects assigned as follows:

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

Sunday School—N. R. Keeton. Missions—J. J. Walker. Sustentation—Alex Ball. Orphanage J. D. Turner. Periodicals and Publications—R. L. Walley. State of Religion—Josiah Byrd. Temperance—J. T. Vise. Christian Education—Prof. J. L. Denson. Pastoral Support—Prof. T. L. Lewis. Woman's Work—C. E. Anding. Music—E. E. Roberts. Queries and Requests—Syl Turner.

Report on the Baptist Orphanage was received and spoken to by Revs. J. J. Walker and J. E. Curry, after which it was adopted as follows:

Report on Orphanage.

In obedience to the injunction of the Holy Scriptures, we find that the Mississippi Baptists are fostering an institution for the care of the destitute orphan children of the state. This is not a mere physical care, but it strives to train the mental, moral and spiritual being as well.

We, (I say we, because every loyal Baptist in the state has a share in it), own about two hundred acres of land, eighty of which is in cultivation. On this land are builded commodious brick buildings—the home of the two hundred and more children. We have also a blacksmith shop, factories on a small scale and barns where thoroughbred stock are found. All these, together with the farm are cared for by the boys of the Home. The girls find employment in the steam laundry and in performing the household duties. All this work is done by the inmates

of the Home.

In passing let us not forget to mention the public school and the sabbath school.

The average cost per capita for caring for these children is $5.00 per month; making a monthly expenditure of $1,115.00.

Then, seeing as we do, that the Orphanage is an institution preparing boys and girls to go out into the world to win honor for themselves, credit for the Home and glory for the kingdom of God, let us visit it with our substance, since we cannot do it in person. If we, as individual Christians, would do our duty along this line it would not only prove a blessing to these, God's creatures, but it would prove a benediction to every contributor.

Respectfully submitted,

M. C. FERGUSON, Chairman.

A collection was taken for the Orphanage, amounting to $11.65.

A motion prevailed to take a collection in all the churches of the Leaf River Association on Thanksgiving Day for the benefit of the orphans.

The report on Woman's Work was received and spoken to by Bro. J. E. Miller and others, after which it was adopted as follows:

Report on Woman's Work.

The W. M. U. in this Association seems to be in its infancy—only one. The Leakesville church reports a W. M. U. which was organized only a few weeks ago. A few years ago the W. M. U. was organized in the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention. There were reported 10,580 Unions, contributing $200,000.00 in cash money, besides the orphanage boxes contributed by them. This work of these consecrated women is by far more than we could have expected at the 1911 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Mississippi last year gave through the various Unions $3,120.00 to home missions and $83,850.15 was given by them in the South for the same purpose. The W. M. U. gave last year $127,900.47 to Foreign Missions. In Mississippi they gave $4,636.58. The W. M. U's. are doing a great work along many lines; they are supporting a training school for women at Louisville, Ky., and a home for the children of missionaries and helping to support orphans and old ministers.

We recommend that the pastor's and officers insist upon and help the women organize a W. M. U. in every church in this Association.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. MILLER, Chairman.

Report on temperance received and spoken to by brethren J. D. Turner, Josiah Byrd and others, after which it was adopted as follows:

Report on Temperance.

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to make the following report:

We are commanded to abstain from strong drink, "And be not drunken with wine wherein is excess; but filled with the spirit etc." Can a Christian participate in excessive, or even moderate drinking, and be filled with the spirit? We say no. The professed Christian who is addicted to the drink habit, shows little evidence of true conversion.

We recommend that as Christian, we combine our influence to put down this stronghold of satan, and banish the use of strong drink, which is sure to work ruin to the participator, physically, financially, morally and intellectually. How many noble men and wealthy estates have we known to be brought down from honor, to want, degredation and ruin through the drink habit. Young man, note right here that no great distinction, honor nor achievement of success ever came to any man who indulged in the drink habit. Therefore beware of the first drink.

This is an age of activity—let Christian people be resolute. Let us rise up in our strength and throw ourselves into the work, and assist our officers to put down blind tigers, and drive the whiskey soaked profaners of morality from our midst. When our professed Christians to cease to swear falsely in our Grand Jury rooms and before the courts to protect such characters, but do their sworn duty, such characters will cease to exist in the community.

This is a day of action, men of God. Act!

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. D. TURNER, Chairman.

Report received and discussed by Rev. J. J. Walker and Bro. N. R. Keeton and adopted as follows:

Report on Publications.

We your committee beg leave to make the following report:

We live in the most progressive age of the world, when young people are striving for an education, and worldly wisdom is increasing at a wonderful rate. The love of literature is growing more every day among our young people, while at the same time our country is being flooded with every conceivable form of

poisonous literature, calculated to deceive the mind and corrupt the morals of the youth of our land. It therefore becomes very necessary that we supply our homes with the very best literature possible. We recommend the Bible as the standard by which to judge. For a religious paper for the home, we would recommend The Baptist Record of Jackson, Mississippi, and The Mississippi Baptist of Newton, Mississippi.

For the Sunday School we would recommend the Southern Baptist Convention Series.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. Tood, Chairman.

On motion the body adjourned for dinner; and after partaking of a bountiful repast prepared by the good ladies of Sweetwater community, we were called in final session by the Moderator.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Report on Christian education was received and ably discussed by Prof. T. L. Lewis, Rev. J. J. Walker and others, after which it was adopted as follows:

Report on Christian Education.

We, your committee on Christian Education submit the following as our report:

We wish to impress on this body the great need and great demand for an education.

The rising generation is to face a crisis very different to that which their fathers faced. We learn that the foreign elements are pouring into our country at the rate of over one and a half million annually, the greater part of which are Catholics. We must educate our people in order that they may be able to stand for Christ in the face of a strong Catholic element.

We believe that we as Baptists should educate our children in Baptist schools.

We believe that a true educution tends to develop the three phases of a man's life—the physical, the intellectual and the spiritual. Our state institutions place strong emphasis on the first two, but say nothing of the third.

There is only one kind of a school that emphasises the great need of developing the spiritual side of a man's life. That is the religious or denominational school. But nowhere do we find Baptist principles and doctrines so closely adhered to as in our Baptist Colleges.

Too many of our schools teach the idea of making a living or obtaining wealth and fail to teach their pupils the great question, "What would it profit a man if he should gain the whole

world and lose his own soul?"

We realize shat training in agriculture, mechanics and domestic sciences are great factors in preparing our boys and girls for their worldly duties, yet these things give us but very little idea of the real work of life; working in our Master's Kingdom.

Let us place more emphasis on laying up for ourselves treasures in Heaven. Teach, or have our boys and girls know that " A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

Our Baptist colleges of the state give special training in our Master's work, all have good Sunday Schools, B. Y. P. U.'s, W. M. U.'s and training in the various religious works.

We have three schools maintained and controlled by the Baptists of our state. Clark Memorial College, at Newton, for boys and girls, controlled by the General Association. Mississippi College at Clinton, for boys, and South Mississippi, at Hattiesburg, for girls, are controlled by the Baptist State Convention.

These colleges are run for the good of and by the Baptists of our state. It is our duty to help them with our means.

Let us realize the great responsibility that rests upon us in educating our children. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Respectfully submitted,

T. L. Lewis, Chairman.

Report on Sustentatation.

We, your committee on Sustentation, beg leave to report as follows:

Our old wornout ministers who have spent their lives in the church service deserve our help! We have in this Association one old minister of the gospel needing our help, viz: Elder P. G. Hillman of Neely, Miss. Brother Hillman is about eighty-two years old and has been a faithful minister of the gospel. Let us give him our sympathies and support. We therefore recommend that every church in this Association take a collection sometime during the year for this old servant of God.

Respectfully submitted,

E. M. Ball, Chairman.

Rsport on Pastoral Support.

We, your committee on Pastoral Support beg leave to make the following report:

We believe that our pastors should have our loyal support. They should have our sympathies, our prayers, our

smiles and kind words; and especially our regular attendance at church. But this, with our small contributions is not enough; lets pay them more.

Most of the pastors have families to support and educate, and if he discharges his duty to the church in preparing his sermons, visiting the sick, burying the dead, etc., we know he has not time to labor for his support as we do. This is a business of the situation. God established the church and gave us the pastor, and ordained that the church should support the pastor. The apostle Paul in writing the church at Corinth on this subject, asked the question, "Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges etc? If we have unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? Do ye not know that they which minister about Holy things live of the things of the temple? And they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel."

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. Harvison, Chairman.

Report on Music.

The report of the Committee on Music was received and adoptod as follows:

We your, committee on music, beg to submit the following report:

Of all the arts Muric is the most sublime. Of all moral forces the most powerful. The less of music a man has in his soul the nearer his approach to barbarism. Therefore the musical attainments of a nation is an index to the heighth of their civilization.

Every step of step of progress made by the church is an epoch marked by the burden of its songs. Directly following the days of persecution, which the early Chistians underwent, it seems that the people of God must have lived closer to the cross than the majority of our present day Christians do, judging by the contrast between the old hymn poems and the light butterfly music of the present age. We have made wonderful improvements along musical lines in the last few years, but not anything like what we ought to have accomplished, since it is possible to employ high-grade teachers at any time. We are making a sad mistake by neglecting the training of our young people in music. There have been very few music schools taught in the bounds of the Leaf River Association this year. Brethren, we recommend that every church in the Association secure a good teacher for at least ten days during the coming summer and have a good old

fashioned singing school, and note the difference in your church music.

We recommend that all the churches of this Association get a uniform song book, and we can recommend no better book than the New Evangel, published by the Baptist Book Concern at Louisville, Kentucky.

Parents, educate your children in music.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. ROBERTS, Chairman.

Report on Nominations

Report on nominations received and adopted as follows:

We, your committee on nominations, beg leave to report as follows: We find several churches requesting that the Association convene with them next year. We recommend that the place of meeting be with New Hope church at Agrigcola, Mississippi, and the time be Wednesday before the third Sunday in October, 1913; the intoductory sermon to be preached by Rev. C. C. Jones, with Rev. J. J. Walker as alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

S. R. BRELAND, Chairman.

The following-named churches requested letters of dismission, which were granted, viz: Richton, Seminary, Kittrell and Friendship.

A motion prevailed to strike out the phrase "within our bounds" from Article 2 of the constitution of this Association.

On motion it was agreed to send a delegate to the General Association, and also forward all funds now in the treasury of the Leaf River Association to the General Association, also all collections taken for missions hereafter in this Association.

An order was passed to send a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention next year, and Bro. Mance Ball was elected as such delegate.

The Treasurer's Report was received and adopted as follows:

Treasurer's Report.

Balance brought over from 1910	$21.02
Received for Associational purposes 1911	47.10
Total	$68.12

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Clerk's salary for 1911	$15.00
Paid Treasurer's salary for 1911	10.00
For printing minutes for 1911	41.35
Total	$66.25
Balance carried forward to 1912	$ 1.87

MISSION REPORT.

Received for Associational Missions	$34.50
Received and forwarded Foreign Missions	1.35
Received and forwarded Home Missions	2.50
Received and forwarded for Orphanage	1.85
Total	$40.20

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid to W. J. Peters for Mission work	$13.20
Balance on hand	$21.24

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. ROBERTS, Treasurer.

Report on Finance was received and adopted as follows:

Report on Finances.

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to report as follows:

Received from the churches for Associational purposes	$ 38.25
For Foreign Missions	3.00
For Sustentation	8.15
For Orphanage	7.65

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. D. TURNER, Chairman.

A collection was taken for Elder P. G. Hillman, amounting to $8.15.

Executive Board.

Beaumont	B. C. Martin.
Bufkin Chapel	T. P, Finch.
Cedar Grove	S. R. Breland.
Fellowship	C. P. Smith.
Leakesville	J. E. Miller.
McLain	C. O. Backstrom.
New Hope	J. T. Vise.
Pleasant Hill	Josiah Byrd.
Rocky Creek	Geo. Welford.
Sand Hill	J. C. Roberts.
Sweetwater	J. D. Turner.
Washington	Alex. Ball.

The following churches pledged a donation in amount set opposite their names to Rev. Luther Turner for educational purposes, viz:

Pleasant Hill	$10.00.
Washington	5.00.
Sweetwater	10.00.
Cedar Grove	5.00.
Bufkin Chapel	5,00.
New Hope	5.00.
Sand Hill	5.00.
Fellowship	2.50.
Total	$47.00.

Resolved, that the Clerk of this Association be ordered to superintend the printing and distribution of a sufficient number of the minutes of the Association, and that he be allowed the sum of $15.00 for his services.

N. R. Keeton, Moderator.
E. E. Roberts, Clerk.

Resolution.

We, the Leaf River Association, do hereby tender our heartfelt thanks to the good people of Sweetwater and vicinity, for their kind hospitality shown us while in their midst.

Our Dead.

Sister Nancy Elder, Beaumont, Miss.

Bro. J. M. Brownlee, R 1, Richton, Miss.

Sister Elizabeth Roberts, R 1, Richton, Miss.

Sister Betsey Roberts, R 1, Richton, Miss.

Bro. E. Mike Miller, McLain, Miss.

Bro. Frank Byrd, McLain, Miss.

Bro. Wm. Turner, Leakesville, Miss.

Bro. A. Williams, Leakesville, Miss.

Elder J. P. Griffin, Pearce, Ala.

Sister Julia Evans, Address not given.

Bro. Stone Eubanks, Address not given.

Mrs. J. A. Parker, Agricola, Miss.

Sister Mary F. Walker, Leakesville, Miss.

Gilbert Harris, Jonathan, Miss.

J. G. Parker, Lucedale, Miss.

Constitution.

Article 1. This Association shall be called the Leal River Baptist Association of Missionary Baptists.

Art. 2. The object of this Asspciation shall be to carry out our Lord's command, viz: "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." And especially to promote the Sunday School cause, to encourage a deeper interest in our denominational schools and literature; to encourage temperance; to use our best efforts to preach the gospel to the destitute and to further any and all worthy benevolent enterprises.

Art. 3. The membership of this body shall consist of messngers elected annually by the churches belonging to this Association.

Art. 4. This Association shall meet annually at a time and place decided upon at the preceeding meeting.

Art. 5. It shall be the duty of each church belonging to this body to elect and send annally three messengers, together with a letter containing such information as may be required to make up intelligible tables of statistics.

Art. 6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer, who shall be electeed annually by ballot, and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected, whose duties shall be such as devolve upon such officers.

Art. 7. There shall be a Mission Board consisting of one member from each church belonging to this Association, such members to be appointed annually by the Moderator and approved by the Association.

Art. 8. This Board shall meet while the Association is in session and its own chairman and secretary; and attend to any other business that may be necessary, and shall hold its meetings regularly thereafter on Saturday before the fifth Sunday during the year. This Board shall have power to transact all business relating to the objects for which this Assbciation stands; Five or more shall be considered a quorum to transact business at any regular meeting.

Art. 9. This Association shall never exercise any ecclesiastical authority whatever over the churches.

Art. 10. Corresponding messengers from other Associations and Conventions of Missionary Baptists, and all brethren

who may be invited to seats with us, are entitled to all the privileges of the Association except the right to vote.

Art. 11. Before the close of the meeting af the Association the Moderator shall appoint a principal and an alternate to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next meeting of the Association.

Art. 12. All questions coming before the Association shall be decided by a majority vote, except that it shall require a two-thirds vote to exclude a church, or alter the Constitution or Articles of Faith; and any such alteration shall be made only after one year's notice thereof has been given, it being definitely understood that Article 1 shall ever remain in full force.

Art. 13. Every church belonging to this Association is expected to contribute regularly to the work of this Association, the contributing church or individual having the right to specify the object to which the contribution should be applied.

Art. 14. Every sitting of this Association shall be opened closed with prayer.

Articles of Faith.

1. We believe that the Holy Bible, written by men divinely inspired, and full of unmixed truth, is perfect rule of faith and practice.

2. We believe in one God—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

3. We believe that man, once holy, fell by voluntay transgression from that happy state and is now utterly void of holiness.

4. We believe that sinners are saved by grace alone.

5. We believe that men are justified by faith in the Lord

6. We believe that salvation is free to all who will accept the gospel.

7. We believe that except a man be renewed by the Holy Spirit, he is not qualified or prepared for the kingdom of Christ on earth or to enjoy His glory hereafter.

8. We believe that repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are duties of every one who hears the gospel.

9. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, by which He graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners.

10. We believe that sanctification, begun in regeneration, and ever progressive, is the process by which we are made to partake of God's holiness.

11. We believe in the preservation of the saints: that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

12. We believe that God's law is the only, the eternal and unchangeable rule of His church and moral government.

13. We believe that a church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, united in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, obeying the ordinances and observing the laws of Christ and that its officers are pastors and deacons.

14. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer, in water, by a properly qualified administrator, into the name of the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

15. We believe that only such as have been properly baptized and received in the followship of the regularly organized Baptist church should partake of the Lord's Supper.

16. We believe that the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath should be observed and sacredly devoted to religious services.

17. We believe that civil government is of divine apointment, and that the governors of states and nations should be obeyed, when the laws the laws they seek to enforce are not in conflict with the Gospel.

18. We believe in the future resurrection of the dead.

19. We believe in the final judgement; and that in that day the righteous and wicked will be separated forever.

20. We believe that the righteous will be made happy forever in heaven, and the wicked miserable forever in hell.

Gospel Order.

1. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons who have given themselves to the Lord, and to one another in brothorly covenant to keep a Godly discipline agreeable to the New Testament.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only law-giver of His church aud is equally the right and privilege ef each member thereof.

3. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in His church until His second coming.

4. We believe that immersion only is baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects.

5. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have the right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

6. We believe it is the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public confession of their faith, to submit to the ordinances of the Gospel, and to give themselves as members of the visible church,

7. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expell from its communion every member who is immoral in conduct, or who holds doctrine contrary to the Scriptures.

Rules of Decorum.

1. This Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the churches to which they respectively belong, and shall be styled the Leaf River Baptist Association.

2. Such delegates shall be members in good standing, and no member under church censure shall be allowed a seat in the Association.

3. They shall produce letters certifying to their appointment by their respective churches, and stating the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed by lettor, excommunicated and deceased during the preceding associational year, with the total number of fellowship, and such other statistical matter as the Association may direct.

4. This Association shall have a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer, who shall be chosen annually by a majority of the members present, said Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot and shall fill their respective places, if present at the preceding meeting of the Association, until a new election takes place, and while in office shall discharge the duties ordinarily incident to those offices.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into this Association, they shall petition by letter and delgate, and if orthodox and orderly, shall be received, and the Moderator recognize them by giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.

6. Each church shall have three delegates, and no more, who shall be entitled to seats in the body and to vote.

7. All ministers of the same faith and order are invited to sit with us and to aid us in counsel.

8. This Association shall neither answer nor debate any query on gospel doctrine, except it be merely to merely explain the articles of faith of this Association.

9. Every motion made and aeconded shall be reduced to writing if requested by any member, and shall be considered by the Association, except it be withdrawn by the mover betore discussion.

10. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

11. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.

12. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflection on the Association or any member thereof, and shall not be interrupted while speaking.

13. No person shall speak more than three times on any subject without leave of the Association.

14. The Moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any subject in debate, the chiar being previously filled. He shall rise from his seat and put the question to the body.

15. The Moderator shall decide questions of order, but appeal from such decision may be taken to the whole body, which shall decide without debate.

16. A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the moderator shall vote as other members when the vote is taken.

17. Committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, subject to the approval of the Association.

18. There shall be no talking or whispering while a brother is tpeaking.

19. No brother shall finally depart from the Association without leave of the body.

20. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over when necessary.

21. The minutes shall be read carefully, corrected and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises

22. A motion for final adjournment shall be construed to involve the previous reading and adjustment of the minutes.

23. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

24. Immediately after the organization of the Association the Rules of Order shall be read from the chair.

25. The foregoing shall be subject to alteration or amendment at any regular meeting of the Association.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POSTOFFICE		Baptisms	Received by letter	Restored	Discharged by letter	Excluded	Died	Total Fellowship	No Minutes
Beaumont	L. D. Bassett	B. C. Martin	Beaumont,	Miss.				1		1	15	8
Bufkin Chapel	J. E. Curry	T. P. Finch	Lucedale,	"	1	1		1	11	1	44	10
Cedar Crove	W. T. Smith	C. L. Kittrell	Jonathan,	"	7	4				1	88	20
Fellowship	J. J. Walker	J. E. Kittrell	Leakesville,	"	6						24	10
Friendship	A. J. Creed	W. F. Lott	Beaumont,	"	3	9					19	
Kittrell	A. J. Creed	G. W. Douglass	Kittrell,	"		3		3			35	
Leakesville	J. J. Walker	R. C. Miller	Leakesville,	"	25	13		2		1	93	25
McLain	Z. C. O'Ferrell	W. C. Roberts	McLain.	"	8	17		3			95	15
New Hope	J. E. Curry	J. T. Vise	Agricola,	"	8	13		1		1	89	15
Pleasant Hill	W. P. Chapman	A. E. Turner	Janet,	"		7		1		1	95	15
Rocky Creek	P. B. Green	Curtis Mallett	Mullett,	"	20	5		2	1	3	239	40
Sand Hill	W. T. Smith	R. L. Walley	Richton, R1,	"							101	
Seminary	J. Nowell	O. C. Palmer	Hintonville,	"							57	10
Sweetwater	J. J. Walker	Jno. D. Turner	Leakesville,	"	28	2		5		2	185	30
Washington	A. Shoemake	F. K. Da'ghdr'l	Neeley,	"	15	5		5		1	177	30

FINANCIAL TABLE.

Sunday School Statistics.

Churches	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Orphanage	Ministerial Education	Printing Minutes	Other Purposes	No. Sunday Schools	No. Teachers	No. Pupils	Kind of Literature	Baptisms from Sunday Schools this year
Beaumont	$	$ 2.00	$	$	$	$1.10	$ 36.00					
Bufkin Chapel						1.00	.95					
Cedar Grove						3.00		1	3	30	BAP	
Fellowship						2.00	12.36	1	3	49	"	
Friendship						1.50		1		40		
Kittrell		2.40				1.00						
Leakesville	40.00	41.50	41.50			4.50	1505.47	1	10	96	"	16
McLain						2.00	74.50					
New Hope	5.00					2.50		1	4	57	"	8
Pleasant Hill			7.00		14.00	3.00		2	5	50	"	
Rocky Creek	7.72					5.00	221.28	1	4		"	
Sand Hill	3.00		5.00			3.00						
Seminary		1.75				2.00						
Sweetwater		4.00		10.00		4.00	308.60	2	10	150	"	28
Washington		.50	4.41			3.50	181.66	1	5	80	"	